

REMARKS

By this amendment, Applicants have amended the claims to delete the reference numerals therefrom and have amended claim 5 and added claims 6-8 to eliminate the multiple dependent claim format. Claim 2 has been amended to delete the phrase "with preferably crown-shaped incisions" and claim 9 added to recite this feature. Applicants have also added claim 10 reciting the preferred arresting and force-limiting elements in Markush format.

In response to the election of species requirement in the outstanding Office Action, Applicants elect the species identified by the Examiner as species a), i.e., a pyromechanical separating element in which the arresting and force-limiting element is a plate spring with preferably crown-shaped incisions. Claims 1, 2 and 5 previously on the application read on the elected invention. Newly added claims 6, 9 and 10 also read on the elected invention.

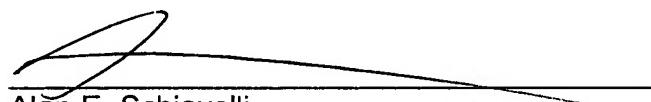
The Examiner indicates claim 1 to be generic. It is submitted newly added claim 10 is also generic.

Examination of the elected species and, upon allowance of a generic claim, examination and allowance of all the claims in the application are requested.

It is respectfully requested that any shortage in the fee be charged to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 306.43467X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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